

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3147

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MISNUMBERED PARAS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJ: NAMIBIAI - CONTACT GROUP MEETING WITH UN SECRETARY
GENERAL WALDHEIM

REF: USUN 3146

1. SUMMARY: UNSYG WALDHEIM INFORMED CONTACT GROUP UN HAD
COMPLETED ITS PLANNING FOR UN ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE IN NAMIBIA
BUT THAT ANY FORMAL PLANNING FOR UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE WOULD
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HAVE TO AWAIT CLEARCUT SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION. SYG
LEFT IMPRESSION THAT UN POSITIONS WOULD BE STRONGLY IN-
FLUENCED BY VIEWS ON FSWAPO AND FRONT LINE STATES.
END SUMMARY.

2. CONTACT GROUP MET WITH SECGEN WALDHEIM AND SELECT
MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF SEPTEMBER 19. WALDHEIM INFORMED

CONTACT GROUP THAT UN HAD FINISHED CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR POTENTIAL UN ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE IN NAMIBIA. UN PLANNING CENTERED ON SUPERVISION OF ELECTIONS HE SAID, AND DID NOT ADDRESS UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE. SYG DID NOT MAKE PLAN AVAILABLE TO GROUP, BUT SUGGESTED CONTACT GROUP DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVE WHO COULD MEET WITH UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA AHTISAARI (WHO HAD DRAWN UP PLAN) TO CLARIFY DETAILS.

3. AFTER AMBASSADOR MCHENRY AND OTHER NOTED PRESENT TIGHT TIMETABLE AND NEED FOR PROMPT UN PEEACEKEEPING PLANNING, SYG MADE CLEAR HIS VIEW THAT PLANNING WOULD NOT GO FORWARD UNTIL SECURITY COUNCIL HAD MADE DECISION IN PRICIPLE ON UN ROLE. WALDHEIM NOTED THAT IN LIGHT OF HIS RECENT CONSULTATIONS WITH GROMYKO, THE VIEWS OF SWAPO AND FRONT LINE STATES WOULD BE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SOVIET STANCE IN SECURITY COUNCIL. WALDHEIM INDICATED HE SAW NO REAL PROBLEM IN UN PLAYING ITS ROLE ONCE HE HAD A MANDATE AND UN WOULD DO UTMOST TO AVOID ANY COMPLICATING DELAYS. WHAT WAS NEEDED AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, WAS CLARIFICATION ON BOTH THE QUESTIONS OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA AND THE MANDATE OF THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

4. GROUP INFORMED WALDHEIM OF SAG ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF AHTISAARI AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR NAMIBIA AS WELL AS SCHEDULED CONTACT GROUPS MEETING WITH SAG IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PRETORIA AND EXPECTED MEETING WITH SWAPO FOLLOWING SOUTH AFRICAN TALKS. SYG AGREED TO KEEP SAG ACCEPTANCE OF AHRISAARI CONFIDENTIAL.

5. ON PANEL OF JURISTS, WALDHEIM SIMPLY SUPPORTED SWAPO POSITION OPPOSING PANEL. IN REGARDS TO WALVIS BAY HE CONCURRED IN IMPORTANCE OF DOWNPLANING ISSUE, NOTED HIS RECENT PRESS STATEMENTS AS SUPPORTIVE OF THAT POSITION, BUT NOTED THAT AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA COULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT A PORT. ON FINANCING OF UN OPERATION, SYG MADE CLEAR HIS PREFERENCE FOR MANDATORY AS OPPOSED TO VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

6. CONTACT GROUP MET SHORTLY AFTER MEETING AND AGREED THAT AMBASSADOR MCHENRY SHOULD ACT AS LIAISON WITH AHTISAARI.

7. COMMENT: WALDHEIM'S CAUTION WAS PAINFULLY APPARENT. YOUNG

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